AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of the claims shall replace all prior versions and listing of the claims in this application:

1. (Currently Amended) A method for configuring a path between nodes on a fibre channel fabric, comprising:

modifying a world wide node name (WWNN) of a target node connected to a fabric by replacing a byte of the WWNN with a byte indicative of a slot number in which a port is located to generate a world wide port name (WWPN) of each port in the target node;

querying a name server for addresses of ports of ~~a~~ the target node ~~connected to a fabric~~;

receiving the ~~address~~ addresses of ~~a~~ connected ~~port~~ ports;

querying the name server for ~~port names~~ WWPNs corresponding to the received addresses;

receiving the ~~port name~~ WWPNs of the connected ~~port~~ ports; and

~~generating~~ determining an interface_id of ~~the~~ each connected port, the interface_id corresponding to ~~a~~ the slot number of the target node in which the port is located.

2. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising:

from ~~a~~ the WWNN of a target node and the determined interface_id of a selected port, ~~generating~~ obtaining the ~~name~~ WWPN of the selected port;

querying the name server with the ~~name~~ WWPN of the selected port;

receiving the address of the selected port; and

opening a session with the selected port.

3-5. (Cancelled)

6. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the address of each connected port is a destination_id.

7. (Currently Amended) A storage area network, comprising:

a source node;

a target node having a world wide ~~node name~~ (WWNN);

a selected port in the target node having a port address and a world wide port name (WWPN);

a fabric to which the source node and the target node are coupled;

a data structure associated with the source node establishing a relationship between the ~~port name~~ WWPN of the selected port with a physical slot of the target node in which the selected port is located, the relationship comprising a byte of the WWNN of the target node being a byte indicative of a slot number of the slot in which a port is located;

means for obtaining the address of the selected port;

means for obtaining the ~~name~~ WWPN of the selected port in response to the obtained port address; and

means associated with the source node for accessing the data structure and generating the interface_id of the selected port in response to the obtained ~~port name~~ WWPN.

8. (Currently Amended) The storage area network of claim 7, further comprising:

means associated with the source node for accessing the data structure and generating the ~~name~~ WWPN of the selected port from an input ~~node name~~ WWPN and interface_id;

means for obtaining the address of the selected port from the generated ~~port name~~ WWPN; and

means for opening a session with the selected port in the target node in response to obtaining the port address.

9. (Original) The storage area network of claim 8, further comprising a name server, comprising:

means for receiving a query from the source node requesting addresses of ports in the target node; and

means for transmitting the port addresses to the source node.

10. (Currently Amended) The storage area network of claim 9, wherein the name server further comprises:

means for receiving a query from the source node requesting ~~port names~~ WWPNs corresponding to the transmitted port addresses; and

means for transmitting the ~~port names~~ WWPNs to the source node.

11. (Currently Amended) The storage area network of claim 9, wherein the name server further comprises:

means for receiving the ~~name~~ WWPN of the selected port and a query from the source node requesting the address of the port corresponding to the received ~~port name~~ WWPN; and

means for transmitting the address of the selected port to the source node.

12. (Currently Amended) The storage area network of claim 8, wherein the means for obtaining the address of the selected port comprises:

means for transmitting the ~~name~~ WWPN of the selected port and a query to a name server on the fabric requesting the address of the port corresponding to the transmitted ~~name~~ WWPN; and

means for receiving the port address from the name server.

13. (Original) The storage area network of claim 7, wherein the means for obtaining the address of the selected port comprises:

means for transmitting a query to a name server on the fabric requesting addresses of ports in the target node; and

means for receiving the port addresses from the name server, the received port addresses including the address of the selected port.

14. (Currently Amended) The storage area network of claim 13, wherein the means for obtaining the ~~name~~ WWPN of the selected port comprises:

means for transmitting a query to a name server on the fabric requesting ~~names of ports~~ WWPNs corresponding to the received port addresses; and

means for receiving the ~~port names~~ WWPNs from the name server, the received ~~port names~~ WWPNs including the ~~name~~ WWPN of the selected port.

15. (Currently Amended) A computer program product of a computer readable medium usable with a programmable computer, the computer program product having computer-readable code embodied therein for configuring a path between nodes on a fibre channel fabric, the computer-readable code comprising instructions for:

modifying a world wide node name (WWNN) of a target node connected to a fabric by replacing a byte of the WWNN with a byte indicative of a slot number in which a port is located to generate a world wide port name (WWPN) of each port in the target node;

querying a name server for addresses of ports of ~~a~~ the target node ~~connected to a fabric~~;

receiving the ~~address~~ addresses of ~~a~~ connected ~~port~~ ports;

querying the name server for ~~port names~~ WWPNs corresponding to the received addresses;

receiving the ~~port name~~ WWPN of ~~the~~ each connected port; and

~~generating~~ determining an interface_id of the connected ~~port~~ ports, the interface_id corresponding to ~~a~~ the slot number of the target node in which the port is located.

16. (Currently Amended) The program product of claim 15, further comprising instructions for:

from ~~a~~ the WWNN of a target node and the determined interface_id of a selected port, ~~generating~~ obtaining the ~~name~~ WWPN of the selected port;

querying the name server with the ~~name~~ WWPN of the selected port;

receiving the address of the selected port; and

opening a session with the selected port.

17-19. (Cancelled)

20. (Original) The program product of claim 15, wherein the address is a destination_id.

21. (Currently Amended) A method for establishing a path between nodes on a fibre channel fabric, comprising:

modifying a world wide node name (WWNN) of a target node ~~name~~ connected to a fabric by replacing a byte of the WWNN with a byte indicative of a slot number in which a port is located to generate the name of each port in the target node;

querying a name server for addresses of ports of ~~a~~ the target node ~~connected to a fabric~~;

receiving the address of a connected port;

querying the name server for ~~port names~~ WWPNs corresponding to the received addresses;

receiving the ~~port name~~ WWPN of the connected ~~port~~ ports;

~~generating~~ determining an interface_id of the connected port, the interface_id corresponding to ~~a~~ the slot number of the target node in which the port is located;

from a WWNN of a target node and the interface_id of a selected port, generating the ~~name~~ WWPN of the selected port;

querying the name server with the ~~name~~ WWPN of the selected port;

receiving the address of the selected port; and

opening a session with the selected port.

22-23. (Cancelled)

24. (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~22~~ 21, wherein the address of each connected port is a destination_id.